Collaboration with foreign universities for higher education

208. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for collaboration with foreign universities for higher education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Higher education institutions are autonomous, and with effect from August 2004 are free to enter into MoU with foreign educational institutions for academic exchange activities. As per existing guidelines/instructions on procedure to be observed by Indian universities for signing of MoU with foreign universities, the Central universities, State universities and Deemed universities are not required to take any permission either from the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the University Grants Commission. The earlier guidelines issued by this Ministry on 02.05.2005 to the effect that State Universities could enter into MoU with foreign universities only with the prior clearance of their respective State Governments, were also with drawn vide Office Memorandum dated 28.08.2004, with a view of not interfering with the autonomy of the institutions of higher learning.

Vacancies in Central Universities

209. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 20 per cent of the teaching posts in the Central Universities were lying vacant as in December, 2007;

(b) if so, the details of posts lying vacant, post-wise, since when each post has been lying vacant and the reasons for non-filling up the posts in the Central University at Hyderabad;

(c) the efforts made to fill up these posts;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Oversight Committee has recommended for more financial assistance to recruit more and more teaching staff in view of the 27 per cent reservation in higher education; and

(e) if so, what is the allocation made exclusively for recruitment of teachers in the Central Universities, particularly the Central University at Hyderabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that in a number of Central Universities 20 percent or more posts of teachers were vacant as on December, 2007.

(b) and (c) The requisite details in respect of University of Hyderabad, alongwith the efforts made by the University to fill up vacant teaching posts are given in the Statement (*See* below). The University has advertised all the vacant posts on 28-4-2008.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), a sum of Rs. 800 crs. (approx) has been allocated for a period of five years from 2008-09 for recruitment of teachers in Central Universities, out of which approximately Rs. 20 crs. has been allocated to the University of Hyderabad.